

MOTION BY SUPERVISOR DON KNABE

February 3, 2015

Related to Item 16

Today the Board of Supervisors is considering amending the County's "Traditional Bingo" ordinance to conform to state law. At this time it seems appropriate to also look at the issue of "Remote Caller Bingo." Over the years, my office and the Treasurer and Tax Collector (TTC) have received inquiries concerning the ability to obtain a license to conduct "Remote Caller Bingo." In "Remote Caller Bingo," the caller of the random numbers is located in a separate location and uses audio and video technology to telecast to participating locations.

The California Gambling Control Commission ("Commission") currently regulates "Remote Caller Bingo" and any organization conducting "Remote Caller Bingo" must comply with the requirements of the Commission. In addition, before operating in a local jurisdiction, "Remote Caller Bingo" operators must obtain a "Traditional Bingo" license from that jurisdiction. The County does not currently license "Remote Caller Bingo" operators.

As the TTC advised in their December 17, 2014 report on "Remote Caller Bingo," both "Traditional Bingo" and "Remote Caller Bingo" games must be conducted by specific eligible organizations. Currently, three counties and 16 incorporated cities throughout the State have ordinances for "Remote Caller Bingo", including Riverside County, San Bernardino County, and the City of Los Angeles.

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Because "Remote Caller Bingo" expands the possibilities for eligible organizations to increase fundraising, it is important that the County have an ordinance to license it. It should be noted that the game must still be conducted by specific, eligible, non-profit organizations, which have been operating for at least three years. And like "Traditional Bingo" the receipts from the game must only be used for charitable purposes.

I, THEREFORE, MOVE that the Board of Supervisors instruct the TTC and County Counsel to draft a proposed ordinance to allow licensing of "Remote Caller Bingo" within the County of Los Angeles. Prior to submitting the ordinance for approval, the TTC should review the document with all other departments involved in the process of issuing "Remote Caller Bingo" licenses and any appropriate outside stakeholders.

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